Effect of flying supersonic jets on pilots health

47. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a supersonic fighter jet exposes the pilot to Dynamic Gravitation Force which decrease blood pressure in the head which can result in loss of vision, blackouts etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Air Force is thinking of some advanced training where the supersonic jet pilots will learn how to handle such a situation while air-borne; and

(c) whether Air Force have developed matching combat capabilities in view of the high profile Air Force operating in our neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The pilot/aircrew of supersonic fighter jets are subjected to acceleration forces(G) during certain air combat manoeuvres/aerobatics. This can lead to decreased perfusion of blood to the eyes and brain which in turn causes tunneling of vision, black out or loss of consciousness.

(b) The pilots of the Indian Air Force are trained adequately at the Institute of Aerospace Medicine, Bangalore and are taught to counter acceleration forces due to gravity. The pilots wear an anti 'G' suit which also provides additional protection against acceleration due to gravity.

(c) The capabilities of Indian Air Force pilots to combat the ill effects of these accelerative forces during air combat manoeuvres/aerobatics are at par with those of out neighbouring/other countries.

Poor condition of transport fleet of IAF

†48. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the transport aircraft of Air Force which are engaged in transporting military equipments and other supplies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.